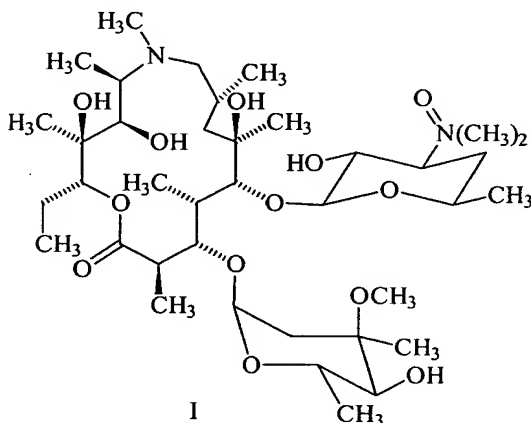


AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

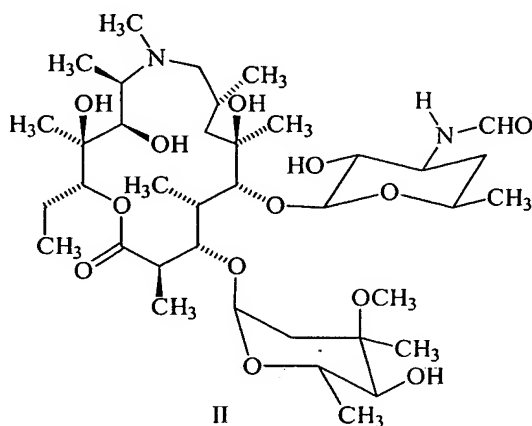
The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

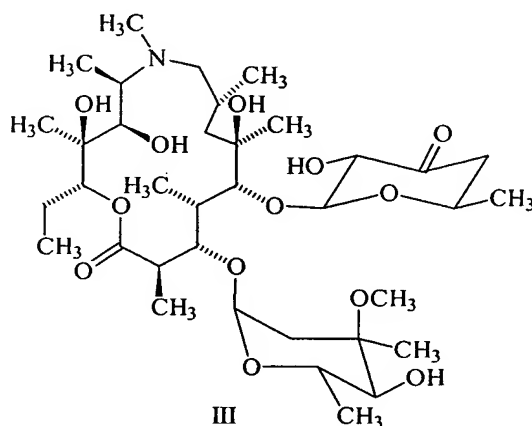
1. (Original) An azithromycin degradation product identified by an HPLC relative retention time of 0.22, 0.26, or 0.80.
2. (Currently amended) An azithromycin degradation product ~~identified by a HPLC relative retention time of 0.22~~ having substantially the following structure I:



3. (Currently amended) An azithromycin degradation product ~~identified by a HPLC relative retention time of 0.26~~ having substantially the following structure II:



4. (Currently amended) An azithromycin degradation product identified by a HPLC relative retention time of 0.80 and having the following structure III:



5. Cancelled.

6. Cancelled.

7. (Withdrawn) A method to analyze azithromycin purity comprising:
assaying azithromycin using an HPLC to determine the presence of azithromycin degradation products;
identifying azithromycin degradation products; and
quantifying the azithromycin degradation products.

8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7, wherein the identification step comprises searching and identifying on the HPLC spectrum azithromycin degradation products having a relative retention time of about 0.22, 0.26, and 0.80.

9. (Withdrawn) A method to determine azithromycin stability comprising:
assaying azithromycin using HPLC to determine the presence of azithromycin degradation products;
identifying the azithromycin degradation products; and
quantifying the azithromycin degradation products.

10. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 9, wherein the identification step comprises searching and identifying on the HPLC spectrum azithromycin degradation products having a relative retention time of about 0.22, 0.26, and 0.80.

11. (New) A method of using an azithromycin degradation product of claim 3 as a reference standard to quantify the amount of the azithromycin degradation product in a sample of azithromycin.